



# MY HERITAGE, MY VOICE 博学多闻

## Mandarin Chinese Heritage Language Credit Project *Wisconsin School District Innovative Program Grant*

Application Deadline: February 18, 2011  
Project Timeline: February 28 – June 1, 2011

Several Wisconsin school districts have requested that My Heritage, My Voice be offered again. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), therefore, is pleased to announce and to invite public school districts to participate in this **innovative project designed to meet the heritage language and cultural needs of Mandarin Chinese speaking students.**

Grants will be awarded to qualifying districts **awarding world language credit(s) to participating students for their heritage language proficiency.** Student proficiency will be assessed through **nationally recognized standardized tests and through participation in a DPI-facilitated three-month online course of study** taught by Wisconsin-licensed Chinese educators.

**Districts will receive \$2,500 (plus \$100/participating student)** to support student success in this innovative project. District **responsibilities include student recruitment, technology support, staff support through a school-based World Language or ESL/Bilingual teacher mentor, and academic recognition of student learning through credits based on proficiency and online course performance.**

The DPI High School Task Force (2006) recommended adoption of **innovative practices, individualized approaches to teaching and learning and proficiency-based policies for awarding credit.** The Heritage Language Credit Project models this approach and addresses the unique linguistic and cultural needs of Chinese heritage language learners.

**Students enrolled in the My Heritage, My Voice online course will reflect upon their personal identity vis-à-vis their heritage language and culture.** They will improve their interpersonal, interpretive and presentation language skills in the context of three themes; The Journey, The Immigrant Experience and The Explorer Spirit. **Students will research and respond to information on their family's ancestral community and immigration experience, dynamics of the Chinese immigration experience and the history and impact of scientific exploration and innovation in China.**

This project is facilitated by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) in partnership with Wisconsin Virtual Schools. Funding for the Critical Language Fellows Program – Heritage Language Credit Project is provided by a US Department of Education Foreign Language Assistance Program Grant.

District application materials available at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/forms/doc/f9614.doc>  
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